

*Amendments to the Claims*

1-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:

a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least 0.25 inches by 1 inch so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine;[[.]]

wherein the hang tag can hold a 5 lb weight without slipping from an original position on the elongated object by more than 0.5 inches.

15. (Currently Amended) The hang tag of claim [[14]] 31, wherein the hang tag further comprising comprises at least one edge, wherein said slot is provided more than about 0.10 inches from each edge.

16. (Currently Amended) The hang tag of claim [[14]] 15, further comprising at least one edge, wherein said slot is provided at least 0.15 inches from each edge.

17.-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof.

21. (Previously Presented) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the hang tag is formed of a cross-laminated material.

22. (Previously Presented) The hang tag of claim 21, wherein the cross-laminated material includes a high density polyethylene.

23. (Previously Presented) The hang tag of claim 14, further comprising a grommet reinforcing said slot.

24. (Previously Presented) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.312 inches by about 1.25 inches.

25-26 (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein said slot is substantially elongated.

28. (Previously Presented) The hang tag of claim 17, wherein said slot is substantially rectangular.

29. (Previously Presented) A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:

a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween; wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.25 inches by about 1 inch so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine; wherein said slot is at least 0.1 inches from any edge of said hang tag; wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge; wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof; and wherein at least a portion is formed of a cross-laminated material.

30. (Previously Presented) A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:

a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.312 inches by about 1.25 inches so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine; wherein said slot is at least 0.15 inches from any edge of said hang tag; wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge; wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof; and wherein at least a portion is formed of a cross-laminated material.

31. (New) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein the hang tag has at least one additional property selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) at least a portion of the hang tag is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of durable thermoplastics;
- (b) the hang tag can hold the 5 lb weight without slipping from an original position on the elongated object by more than 0.5 inches after the tag has been submerged in a fuel oil for 48 hours;
- (d) the hang tag further comprises at least one edge, wherein said slot is provided more than about 0.10 inches from each edge;
- (d) the hang tag has a thickness of about 1 mils to about 30 mils; and
- (e) combinations of any of (a) – (d).

32. (New) The hang tag of claim 31, wherein the hang tag can hold the 5 lb weight without slipping from an original position on the elongated object by more than 0.5 inches after the tag has been submerged in a fuel oil for 48 hours.

33. (New) The hang tag of claim 16, wherein said slot is provided at least 0.30 inches from each edge.

34. (New) The hang tag of claim 31, wherein said slot is substantially elongated.
35. (New) The hang tag of claim 34, wherein said slot is substantially rectangular.
36. (New) The hang tag of claim 35, wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge.
37. (New) The hang tag of claim 31, wherein at least a portion of the hang tag is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of durable thermoplastics.
38. (New) The hang tag of claim 37, wherein the durable thermoplastic is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, and combinations thereof.
39. (New) The hang tag of claim 38, wherein the durable thermoplastic is a cross-laminated material.
40. (New) The hang tag of claim 39, wherein the cross-laminated material includes a high density polyethylene.
41. (New) The hang tag of claim 31, further comprising a grommet reinforcing said slot.
42. (New) The hang tag of claim 31, wherein the hang tag has a thickness of about 1 mil to about 30 mils.
43. (New) The hang tag of claim 42, wherein the hang tag has a thickness of about 5 mils to about 10 mils.

44. (New) The hang tag of claim 31, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.312 inches by about 1.25 inches.

45. (New) The hang tag of claim 44, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.375 inches by about 1.375 inches.

46. (New) The hang tag of claim 24, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.375 inches by about 1.375 inches.

47. (New) The hang tag of claim 28, wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge.

48. (New) The hang tag of claim 29, wherein the hang tag can hold a 5 lb weight without slipping from an original position on the elongated object by more than 0.5 inches.

49. (New) The hang tag of claim 30, wherein the hang tag can hold a 5 lb weight without slipping from an original position on the elongated object by more than 0.5 inches.